no. 12
kaboom!
OVER THE GARDEN WALL

CREATED BY
PAT MCHALE

"HUNT FOR HERO FROG: GREG"
WRITTEN BY DANIELLE BURGOS
ILLUSTRATED BY JIM CAMPBELL

"HUNT FOR HERO FROG: WIRT"
WRITTEN BY KIERNAN SJURSEN-LIEN
ILLUSTRATED BY CARA MCGEE
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LETTERS BY WARREN MONTGOMERY

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WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO MARISA MARINAKIS, JANET NG, CURTIS LELASH, KATIE KRENTZ, PERNELLE HAYES, ADRIENNE LEE, STACY RENFROE AND THE WONDERFUL FOLKS AT CARTOON NETWORK.

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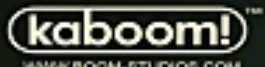

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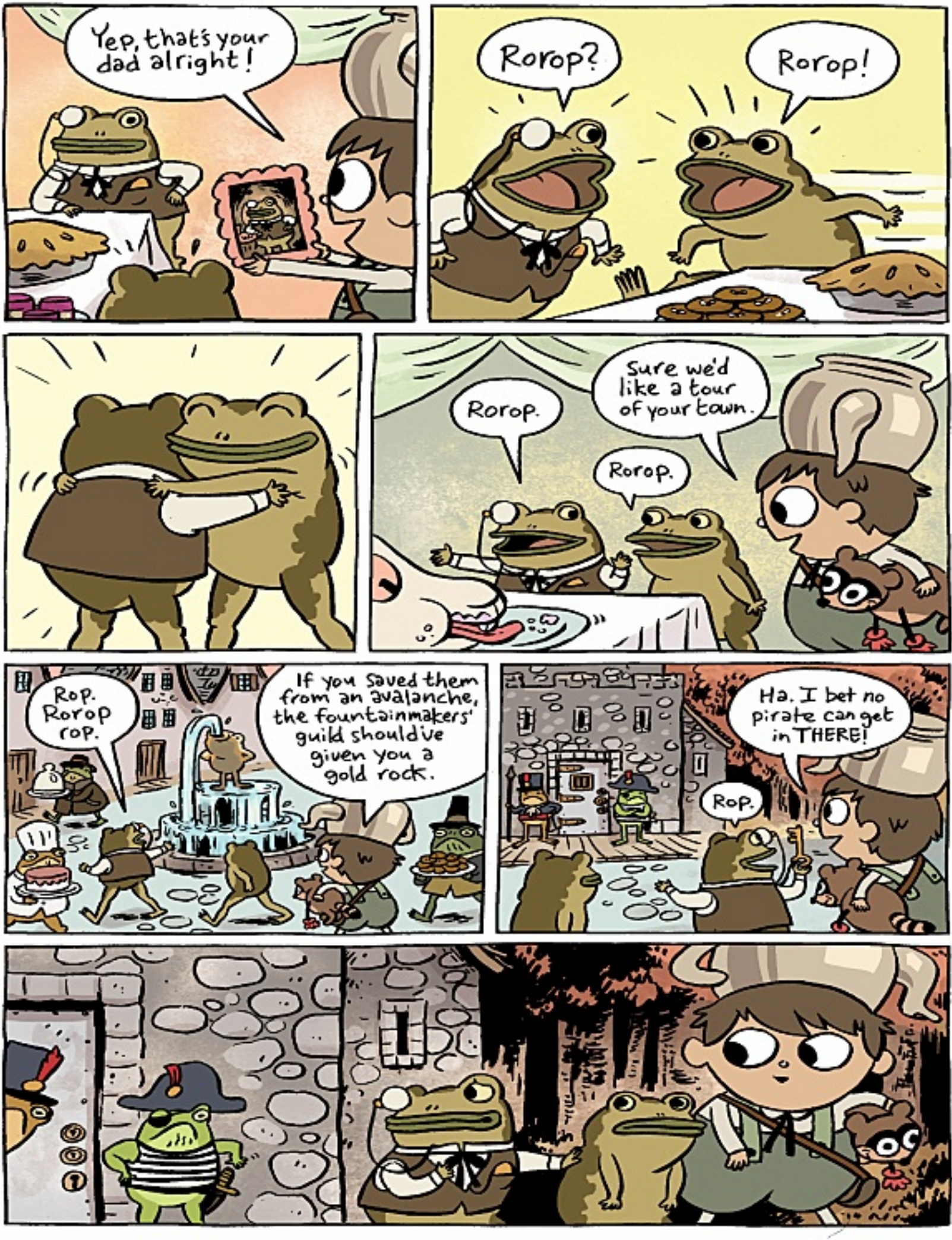
See, you have to take care of your teeth because they're the chompiest part of you.
But you need to be careful because if you chomp too hard your teeth could EXPLODE!
SNIF.
Or you could bite through your own face! But a tooth can't bite through teeth because—
WHOA!
Village Of FROGVILLE

Slow down, Greedy Goat!
STOP!
WHOAAAA!
ROROP!
huh?


Yep, that's your dad alright!
Rorop?
Rorop!
Rorop.
Sure we'd like a tour of your town.
Rorop.
Rop. Rorop rop.
If you saved them from an avalanche, the fountainmakers' guild should've given you a gold rock.
Ha. I bet no pirate can get in THERE!
Rop.

LIBRARY
Rorop!
This is your house?
Rorop!
I bet you could fit 2— no, 3 giraffes in here!
Rop.
Rorop.
Rorop?
Yeah, this is a GREAT town. But why'd you leave your home in the first place Hero Frog?

Rororop. Rop
Whoa, scary. And there was no way you could fight it?
Hmm, yeah, tricking that monster out of town was a good idea. But why didn't you tell your family?
Rop!
Oh, so you had to keep moving, it was right on your tail!
Rorop.
...and because you couldn't stop, your family never knew you saved them from a horrible monster!
But... how come you can stop here so long?
?
RUMBLE
CLOP
CLOP
RUMBLE
CLOP

Rorop?
Yeah. who ARE those guys.
RoRop!
Rorop?
FLOUR
SUGAR
Tax collectors, huh?
I guess it's rough and rowdy tax time!
what's a tax again?
Huh?
Hey, wait up!

SUGAR
SUGAR
Rorop!
SUGAR
SUGAR
MOLASS
SUGAR
molass
UGAR
MOLASSES
SUGAR
That's more candy than a billion trick-or-treats! Why do you have so much candy? Can I have some?
Rop. Rorop.
Ohhh, for the Great Feast!
But I thought THAT was the Great Feast.
MOLASSES
Rorop

Well then, I can't wait, 'cause that Great Feast's gonna be GREAT!
Rrrr...rorop.
SUGA!
Oh, I understand; frogs only, huh. Jason here can fill me in!
Rrrrrrop. Rop...
Well, how Great can a feast be if not everyone's invited?
Rorop! Rop.
Oh! OK!

But wait. Even if every frog in town came...
...that's WAY too much candy. Even if everyone ate like Greedy Goat.
I never thought there'd be a day when I said 'too much candy'
LEMON DROPS
Rorop?
Did you hear anything about a "Great Feast?"
Rop.
I can't go, and You weren't invited. Maybe it's only for GREAT frogs.
ON DROPS

Aw, but you're the GREATEST frog! And a sheriff to boot!
It just don't make no kind of sense.
Rorop.
Ok. We can meet up when you're done.
Lots of sugar... no Jason Frog...
what do you think Deputy Robber?

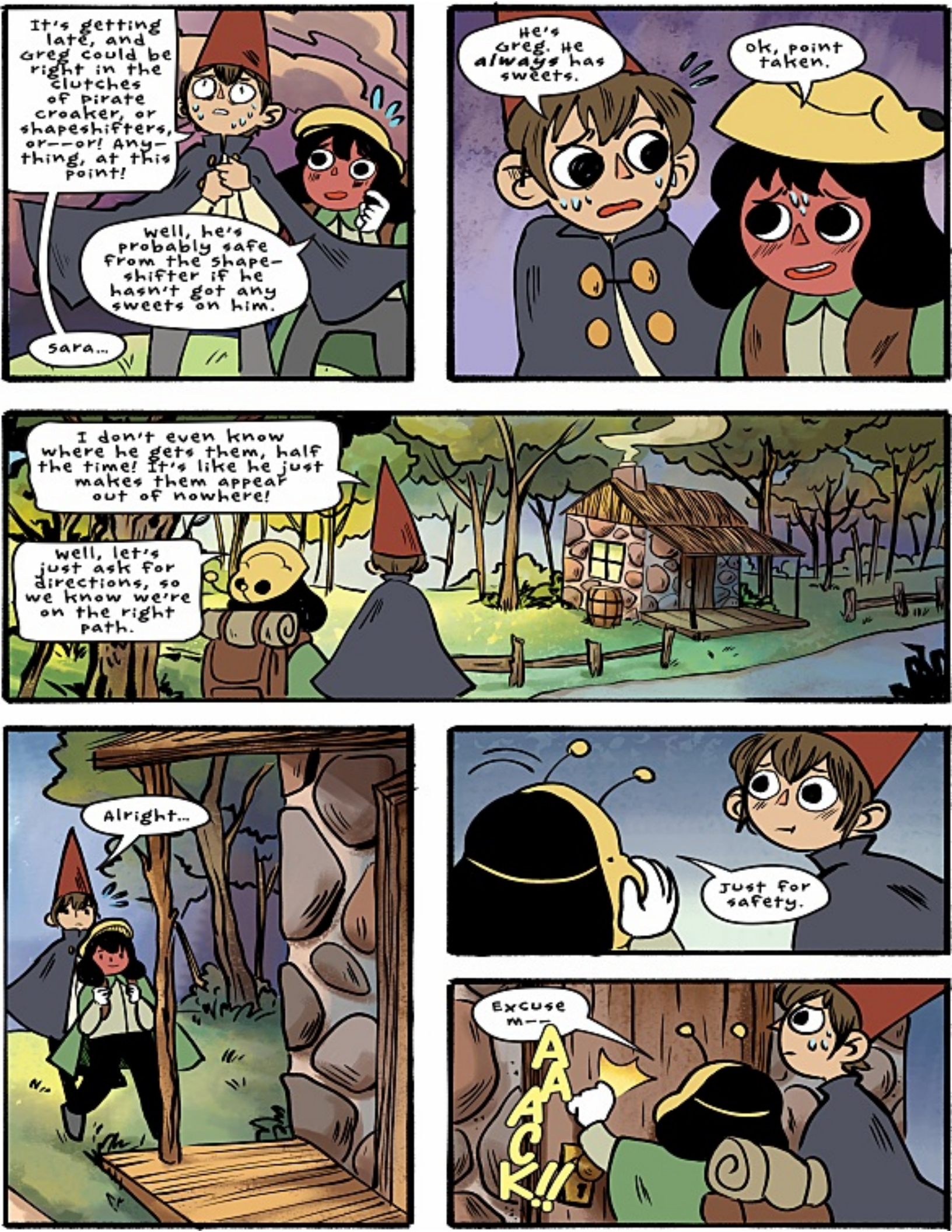
Maybe the Feast isnt for ANY of the frogs...
... but then who IS it for?
OOF!
SMACK!
OwwWHOOOAAA!
TOY
what's THIS?
I wish I had FOUR eyes to see more with!
What was I saying before?
Oh yeah. TOYS AHOY!
To be continued...

So the Hero town is...that way?
Hmm...

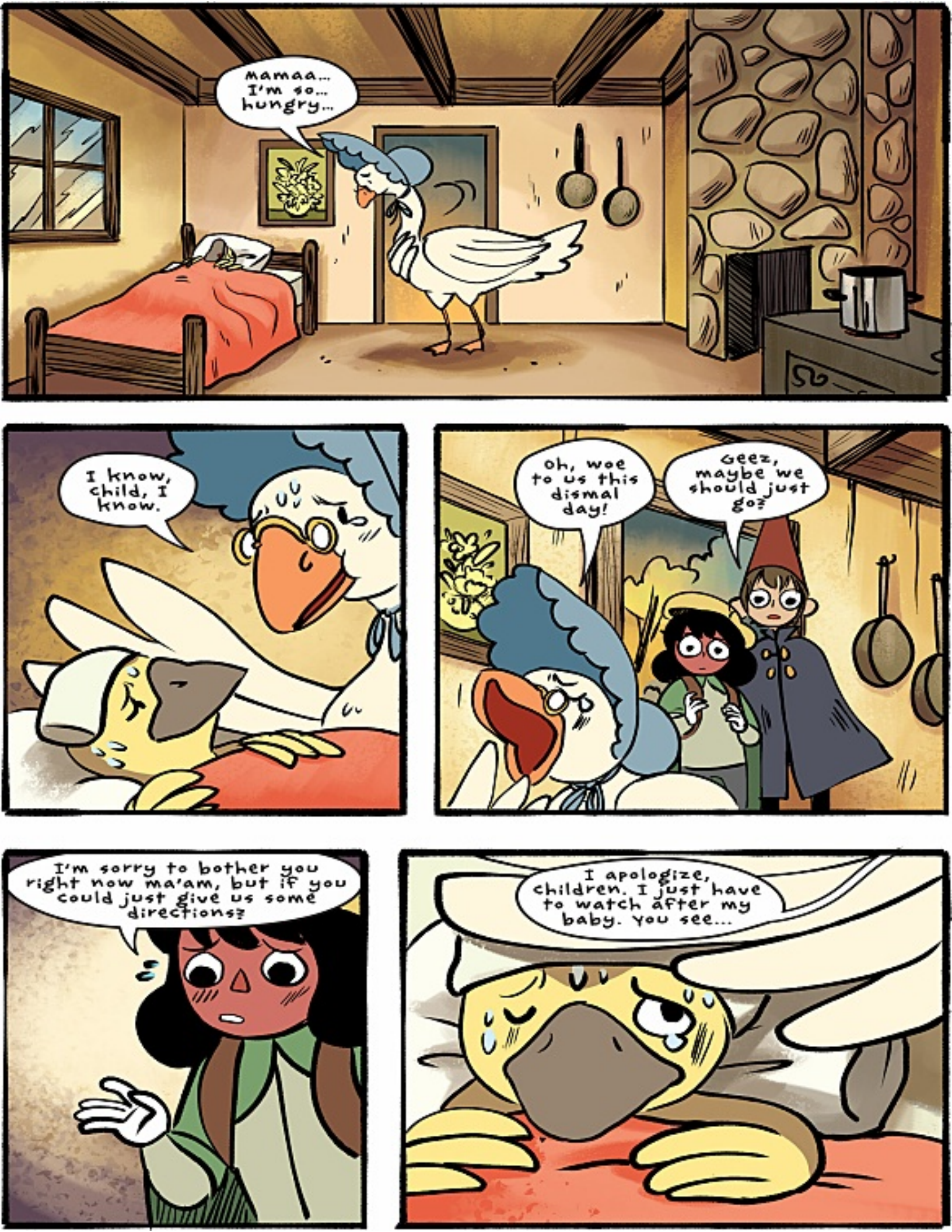
I thought it was more this way, where there's more maples? Jeez--

It's a *lot* harder to see now that we're down from the peak. Do you... think we'll get lost?
probably.

But we'll find our way again. Don't worry about it.
Hah, I guess... Still...

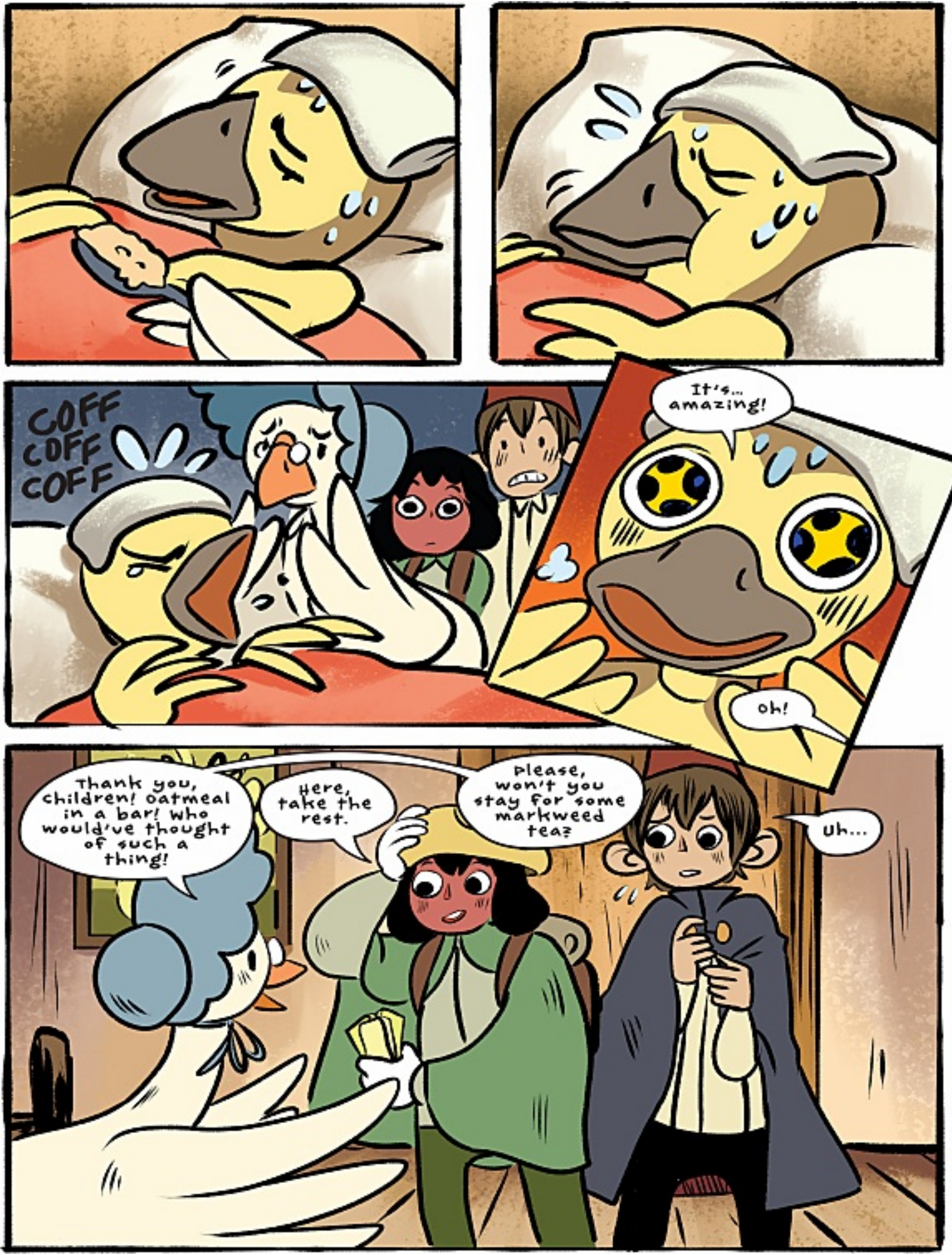

It's getting late, and Greg could be right in the clutches of pirate croaker, or shapeshifters, or--or! Anything, at this point!
Well, he's probably safe from the shapeshifter if he hasn't got any sweets on him.
Sara...
He's Greg. He always has sweets.
Ok, point taken.
I don't even know where he gets them, half the time! It's like he just makes them appear out of nowhere!
Well, let's just ask for directions, so we know we're on the right path.
Alright...
Just for safety.
Excuse m--
AAACK!!

Begone, wolf!!
Sorry--!
This is actually a bee--it's a bee mask.
Oh, thank the heavens. You gave me quite the fright, young lady! You shouldn't wear such terrible wolfish things.
It's clearly a bee. I'm very sorry to have scared you.
We were just going to ask for directions, we're a bit lost.
My, well this is no evening to be lost! There's a wolf about, a terrible creature, with glowing red eyes!
The Shapeshifter.
The what? It was most certainly a wolf.
Maaaammaaaa...


mamaa... I'm so... hungry...
I know, child, I know.
oh, woe to us this dismal day!
Geez, maybe we should just go?
I'm sorry to bother you right now ma'am, but if you could just give us some directions?
I apologize, children. I just have to watch after my baby. you see...

That awful wolf made off with all our food, and now my poor sick child will starve!
I'll starve and DIE, mama.
Yes, that's what I meant! My dear child will starve and DIE!
I'm very sorry ma'am. Um, sara?
Don't you have some snacks in there?
Oh, uh, yeah...
It's just these granola bars, though.
Really?
That's great!
That's terrible!
How could one possibly eat a bar?!
Um, well...

You just kinda...bite down.
How dreadful!!
What about... oatmeal?
Oatmeal! You have *oatmeal*?!
Wirt, what--
We *love* oatmeal! Oh, thank you!
Yes, of course. You do have water, don't you?
Did you hear that, little one? We're having oatmeal!
That was a perfectly good granola bar.
It doesn't really taste *that* bad.
Wait, have you done this before?
Well...


COFF
COFF
COFF
It's... amazing!
oh!
Thank you, children! oatmeal in a bar! who would've thought of such a thing!
Here, take the rest.
Please, won't you stay for some markweed tea?
Uh...

I'm pretty sure that's poison oak.
No, thank you, I think we're allergic.
Ah, the frog town!
You can borrow my wagon. You should be there in no time!
Bye! Thank you!
This is clearly a bee.
FROGTOWN

Huh.
never seen a wagon drive itself home before.
GENERAL STORE
TO GO
never seen a mask like that, either. A bee, huh?
yes, thank you. It's clearly a bee, right?
sure looks like one to me.
Ehem.
sorry to interrupt, but we're looking for a frog.
Ha, well,
there are a lot of frogs that live here, son.
well, we're really looking for a frog with a boy--well, I mean, a boy with a frog. His name's Greg--the boy's name, I mean, not the frog's
Hey, Sara the bee!

Hey, Wirt! You caught up!
Greg?!
Isn't this place great? Hero Frog showed me the whole town and--
Oh no, Greg, stay away from that guy! He's bad news!
Hero Frog? He's not bad news. He's good news! He's great news!
He's not what he seems. He's actually Pirate Croaker!
He's been stealing from innocent people.
That doesn't make sense. Why would his name be "Hero Frog" if he wasn't a hero? Besides, he's got a big tower of sugar and stuff cuz he's gonna throw a Great Feast for his friends!
gasp Those are stolen supplies! He's totally Pirate Croaker..
Well, don't put a frog on trial without proof.
Greg! That IS proof. And look at this handwriting! Pirate Croaker's totally matches Hero Frog's-- see?
Maybe they're using the same pen.
That's not how handwriting works.
I'm SHOWING you proof. You're just ignoring it!
Well I'm no expert, and neither are you. Innocent until proven guilty!
Objection! Circumstantial!
Look, you guys...

Clearly we're at an impasse, but we should stay focused.
I'm not focusing at ALL until Wirt sees that Hero Frog is a hero.
Fine, he's a hero, Greg. Whatever. Let's go home now.
Well if you think he's a hero, we should all hang out with him! He's really nice!
Greg, no, I'm not hanging out with some crook.
You just said he was a hero!
Because I want to go home, Greg! He's clearly pirate croaker.
You ain't got enough proof.
Fine, you want more proof? I'll bring you DEFINITIVE proof.
I'll go get you definitive proof RIGHT NOW!
Okay! I'll find my own definite proof TOO!
..drat.
Greg, do me a favor and stay away from any sugar-loving shapeshifters, ok?
Huh?
Wait up, Wirt!!
RORORP?
To be continued...

THE NOT-SO SECRET SOCIETY

Created by Matthew & Arlene Daley
Trevor & Ellen Crafts
Written by Matthew & Arlene Daley
Illustrated by Kat Leyh

THE PROBLEM IS, WE CAN'T CATCH GHOSTS IF WE CAN'T SEE GHOSTS.
TO SEE GHOSTS, YOU HAVE TO EAT GHOST PEPPERS!
THOSE ARE BEYOND HOT.
WE SHOULD GET AS FAR AWAY AS -
WOOSH
WAIT... THESE DON'T HELP YOU SEE GHOSTS...
...THEY TURN YOU INTO ONE!

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APRIL 2017

TALK ABOUT A MONSTER APPETITE...

BRAVE CHEF BRIANNA

COLORIST SPOTLIGHT

IRMA KNIIVILA

ICYMI:
MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS

WHO IS LORD DRAKKON?

ALSO THIS MONTH

LIKE THIS? TRY THAT!
GET TO KNOW BOOM! STUDIOS

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TALK ABOUT A MONSTER APPETITE...

BRAVE CHEF BRIANNA

Brianna Jakobsson and her fifteen brothers have been issued a challenge: go out into the world to start a restaurant, each in a different city, and the owner of the most successful restaurant will inherit their father's vast cooking empire. Brianna chooses the one place she can afford, Monster City, but quickly learns that serving monsters human food is super illegal! Can she keep her ingredients secret and pull off a win?

Sam Sykes

Wrote a lot of fantasy novels, now writes a lot of comics, owns the best dogs Otis and Charlie, is *ridiculously tall*.

Selina Espiritu

Illustrator, owns the best dog Kai, plays too many video games, is a full-time Nicolas Cage enthusiast.

Who's who in Monster City?

Sykes: Chief among the characters is our titular heroine, Brianna. She's aided in her struggle by her friend, Suzan Fleshrender (of the New Jersey Fleshrenders), an apathetic and lazy harpy who might just have a heart of gold (or possibly coal). Suzan's not exactly motivated to be working in the food industry...or in any industry...or to put on pants, most days, but Brianna has a way of bringing out the best in her. The girls are also helped by their friend, Kevin Park, a kind and helpful engineering intern who is the only other human in Monster City.

Espiritu: Kevin is the resident fixer, all-around-smart-guy, and cinnamon roll. He is an actual angel and it must be seen to be believed, trust me. He's so sad and earnest. Protect him.

I'm terribly excited for people to meet Madame Cron, who is—spoiler alert—Brianna's first antagonist! Madame Cron is a Lamia, which, I was going to just describe as a "snake lady," but Google is telling me I am being amazingly un-academic about it. She's kind of the big cheese in the Monster City culinary world and she's not too happy about a human horning in on her territory.

Which character really gets you?

Sykes: I mean...Brianna's me. I know all my characters are "me" somehow, but Brianna goes through what I go through. I struggle with anxiety, just as she does. I worry about letting people down, just like she does. Brianna doesn't always get big wins or easy victories, sometimes she struggles, but she never gives up and she doesn't stop pursuing what she wants. So yeah, somehow my escapist fantasy is to be a tiny girl running a moderately successful restaurant. Woah. We went deep there, didn't we?

Espiritu: I'm Kevin, but like, if he was Prince Charmless instead of Charming. Kevin is just a super cool dude who wants to make his friends and family happy—which is something we share but have incredibly varying methodologies for; he's friendly and I'm "not rude," which, practically the same right? (Nope.) We also share the lowkey anxiety over being a disappointment to our parents. And failure. Now I need to talk to my dog.

How did you approach the design of Monster City and its inhabitants?

Espiritu: When there's a character who Sam has a specific idea of, he's pretty descriptive about how they should look (down to tattoos!). When it comes to, say, people in the background, I'm given a lot of artistic leg room to kind of just put whatever. Though the characters I draw are usually taken from actual stories from different cultures, and I try to sneak in some Filipino ones too (I'm winking right now, ya'll just can't tell). Some of them are from video games and movies (haha!), and occasionally others are literally just tentacles to fill space (shhHHH).

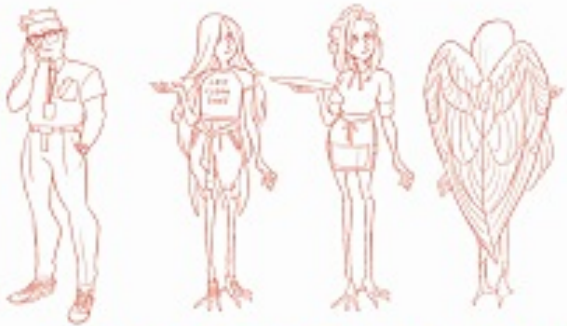
> "...[BRIANNA] NEVER GIVES UP..."

Which of you is the next celebrity chef?

Sykes: I'm an ape in the kitchen: most of the time I just make a huge mess, but occasionally I create something pretty amazing. My favorite recipe to make is my mom's curry. It's a simple recipe she taught me back when I moved out of the house (she was worried that if I didn't know how to cook, I'd either starve or marry someone I hated just because they could cook) and it has served me extremely well over the years.

Espiritu: I cook! But it's really by necessity (since my entire family works and I work from home), and I vacillate wildly between "Yeah, I spent five hours cooking this because I love you" and "If you want your potatoes peeled, you can do it yourself—what do you think I run here? A bed & breakfast?" And it's HARD because I like food a certain way (bland—if I could get away with serving boiled chicken breast every day that's all I'd eat) but it's always "Selina, would it kill you to put some salt in this" or "A piece of cardboard would have more flavor." You know what goes well with meals other people cook for you, kids? GRATITUDE.

We have a Filipino dish called tinola, which is essentially chicken and chicken liver boiled in ginger soup. It's the easiest thing in the world to cook and my favorite dish! ■



BRAVE CHEF BRIANNA #1
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LANCE KREITER

VICE PRESIDENT OF LICENSING & MERCHANDISING

Currently Reading: *The Wicked + The Divine* (so good)

Favorite Item on Desk: My stereo (I can't begin to work without music. . . IMPOSSIBLE)

If I Won the Lottery I'd Spend the Money On: Besides all the "world peace" type stuff I'd hire rockstars to come and play with me

Most Famous Person I've Met: Ross Richie and I once spent 12+ hours at Tommy Lee's house (Motley Crue) #swoon

Hobbies: Drums, drums and more drums

Hometown: Tillamook, Oregon (Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze)

LIKE THIS? TRY THAT!

Not sure what comic to dive into next? We've got some recommendations just for you, pal!

GRASS KINGS → SNOW BLIND

Tyler Jenkins is a pro at creating atmospheric settings in these two family-driven dramas.

COADY AND THE CREEPIES → TEEN DOG

Get your DIY-vibe on with these two zine-inspired comics!

SLAM! → GIANT DAYS

Whether they're in skates or platform boots, these ladies roll with the punches in these slice-of-life series.

MEGA PRINCESS → ABIGAIL AND THE SNOWMAN

These young reader series star girls who break the mold, whether they're princess detectives or saving yetis!

COLORIST SPOTLIGHT

IRMA KNIIVILA

Introduce yourself and tell us what comics you've worked on!

Hi! I'm Irma, and I spend my days working in Toronto's RAID Studio. I've worked on *Joyride*, *Captain Canuck*, and have recently done some work on Marvel titles *Silk* and *Deadpool*.

Where did you get your start as a colorist, and what do you like most about your role in creating a comic?

I was working in animation as a background painter—*Joyride* artist Marcus To asked me to color the initial 6 page preview and I found that a lot of the skills translated directly over. I got a lot of help and advice from our studio-mate and fellow colorist Ian Herring, and it was off to the races after that! I've always been more of a painter than a draftsman, so I like being able to remove the drawing portion of something and just focus on shape and color.

How closely do you work with the penciller/inker on a series?

On *Joyride*, I work really closely with Marcus—we're part of the same studio, so if one of us has a question we can just walk across the room and ask. Sometimes he'll make a special request about the feeling or lighting of a scene. I've also worked in a more removed way, working with an editor who relays any necessary feedback from the artist.

THE PROCESS OF COLORING A PAGE

This is a page from issue #7, where Uma is encountering illusions created by the Fractillian.

To start the coloring process, I'll prep the line-work for flats, then send the inks to my wonderful flatters, Jukie Chan and Laura Campbell.

After receiving flats back, I'll make palette changes, separate out character and background with a mask, and start rendering away.

I'll sometimes add extra lighting and colorize lines where necessary to add some final punch. Lots of back and forth adjustments along the way...

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ICYMI:
MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS

WHO IS LORD DRAKKON?

We've seen the Rangers tangle with Rita Repulsa in the past, but a strange new ally has tipped the scales in her favor. With the Command Center breached, Zordon and Alpha out of commission, and our Rangers on the run from the terrorizing Black Dragon, a new villain emerges: the mysterious Ranger, Lord Drakkon.

CATCH LORD DRAKKON'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN
MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS #9

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